'Pak boats with arms seized in Kutch' appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated 24th January, 1997;

(b) whether two Pakistani mechanised boats were intercepted near Jakhau in the Gulf of Kutch carrying arms and ammunition;

(c) the number of Pakistani vessels carrying arms intercepted inside the territorial waters of India during the last one year;

(d) whether the matter has been taken up with the Pakistan Government; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Pakistan Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only one boat carrying arms and ammunition has been intercepted by BSF on 17th January, 1997, near Koteshwar in Kori Creek.

(c) As per reports available, no other Pakistani vessel carrying arms was intercepted inside the territorial waters of India during the last one year.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The matter regarding interception of one boat on 17th January, 1997 is being investigated further.

Residential Plots/Houses for Veteran Freedom Fighters

491. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken to make available residential plots/houses to homeless veteran freedom fighters and widow of freedom fighters of "Indian National Army" on the priority basis;

(b) whether the requests for allotment of residential plots/houses to the homeless freedom fighters of Indian National Army and widows of freedom fighters of INA are still pending; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the concerned agencies, and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Kashmir militants to train Assam and Manipur fundamentalists

492. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Kashmiri militants have been inducted by the Pakistan-based Inter Service Intelligence (ISI) to train Muslim fundamentalists from Assam and Manipur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) While there is no information specifically about the induction of Kashmiri Militants, there are reports to suggest the involvement of Pakistan-based Inter Service Intelligence (ISI) to train Muslim fundamentalists from Assam and Manipur.

(c) The activities of various insurgent groups and Muslim fundamentalists active in the North Eastern States, including the States of Assam and Manipur, are kept under surveillance and appropriate decisions taken from time to time.

Seizure of Arms in Purulia

493. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the CBI seized two more AK 56 rifles and a rocket launcher at purulia on November 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and